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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 34-49 without prejudice. Claims 1-33 were previously canceled without prejudice. Please amend claims 50-69.

1-33. (Canceled)

34-49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently Amended) A method of designing an integrated circuit comprising the steps of:

- (a) specifying a communication block for the integrated circuit, including the locations of a plurality of unspecified androgynous interfaces;
- (b) identifying functional blocks to comprise the integrated circuit;
- (c) positioning functional blocks to form a layout of the integrated circuit so that distances of connections between functional blocks and distances of connections between functional blocks and unspecified androgynous interfaces are minimized; and
- (d) adapting each unspecified androgynous interface to perform as a target or as an initiator based on the layout, the step of adapting being performed after the functional blocks are positioned to form the layout of the integrated circuit.

51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, the step of adapting each unspecified androgynous interface being performed dynamically comprising dynamically adapting each unspecified androgynous interface to perform as a target or as an initiator.

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52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, further comprising the step of switching an androgynous interface between performing as the a target and performing as the an initiator.

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein an androgynous interface is adapted to perform as the a target of a first communication, further comprising the step of switching the interface from the a target of the first communication to the an initiator of a subsequent communication.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein an androgynous interface is adapted to perform as the an initiator of a first communication, further comprising the step of switching the interface from the an initiator of the first communication to the a target of a subsequent communication.

55. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, further comprising the step of switching each androgynous interface between performing as the a target and performing as the an initiator.

56. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein each androgynous interface is adapted to perform as the a target of a first communication and switches to perform as the an initiator of a subsequent communication.

57. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein each androgynous port is adapted to perform as the an initiator of a first communication and switches to perform as the a target of a subsequent communication.

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58. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein each unspecified androgynous interface is adapted to perform as the a target or the an initiator based on a the type of interface that is required.

59. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein each unspecified androgynous interface is adapted to perform as the a target and or the an initiator at different times.

60. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, further comprising the step of finalizing the layout of the integrated circuit.

61. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 60, wherein each unspecified androgynous interface is adapted to perform as the a target or the an initiator after the layout of the integrated circuit is finalized.

62. (Currently Amended) The method model of claim 50, the step of adapting each unspecified androgynous interface further comprising the step of setting a register of an androgynous interface so that the interface performs as the a target or the an initiator.

63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, the step of adapting each unspecified androgynous interface further comprising the step of performing a logic synthesis that deletes a state machine configuration that is not used for actual operation of the integrated circuit so that a the remaining state machine adapts the interface to perform as the a target or the an initiator.

64. (Currently Amended) The method model of claim 50, the step of adapting each unspecified androgynous interface further comprising adapting each unspecified androgynous interface according to a logic value of a pin of the interface being set to a "1" or a "0".

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65. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein the step of positioning functional blocks to form the layout minimizes a footprint of the integrated circuit.

66. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein the step of positioning functional blocks does not account for a type of interface.

67. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, the specified specifying the communication block ~~comprising specifying a communication block that is being~~ part of a foundation block that includes a processor.

68. (Currently Amended) The method model of claim 50, wherein each unspecified androgynous interface is adapted to perform as the a target or as the an initiator without adhering to a specification of a component library.

69. (Currently Amended) The method model of claim 50, wherein each unspecified androgynous port interface is bi-directional.